

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 IO-13 ACDA-19 OMB-01 EURE-00 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 640

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9326

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EEC

SUBJECT: EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING

1. ACCORDING FONOFF DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR AND EC OFFICE CHIEF (LA ROCCA), SEPTEMBER 4-5 EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING IN COPENHAGEN PRODUCED AGREED DRAFT DECLARATION ON US-EC RELATIONS WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED BY FOREIGN MINISTERS AT SEPTEMBER 10-11 MEETING. DESCRIBING HIS EVALUATION OF RESULTS OF POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING AS GUARDEDLY OPTIMISTIC, LA ROCCA, WHO ATTENDED MEETING, TOLD US THAT DRAFT AGREED UPON SHOULD BE ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION WITH US. AT SAME TIME, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT FRENCH HAD CONTINUED TO TAKE VERY RESERVED ATTITUDE TOWARD ENTIRE EXERCISE AND HAD

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STRONGLY OPPOSED ON SEVERAL POINTS, INCLUDING INSTITUTIONALIZATION

OF ATLANTIC DIALOGUE. LA ROCCA ALSO INTIMATED THAT DRAFT PRODUCED BY POLITICAL DIRECTORS IS OPEN TO COMPROMISE THROUGH DISCUSSION WITH U.S.

2. LA ROCCA SAID THAT AGREEMENT ALSO REACHED TO DISCUSS EC DRAFT DECLARATION WITH US AFTER APPROVAL BY EC FOREIGN MINISTERS. PRESUMABLY, DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER AS CURRENT CHAIRMAN WOULD BE EC REPRESENTATIVE IN THESE DISCUSSIONS. ON QUESTION OF FRENCH ATTENDANCE AT UPCOMING FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING, LA ROCCA EXPRESSED PERSONAL OPINION THAT JOBERT WOULD ATTEND ALTHOUGH HE COULD ALSO SEE REASON WHY FRENCH WOULD NOT WISH TO OFFEND CHINESE.

3. AS PERSONAL VIEW, LA ROCCA ANTICIPATED THAT GREATEST DIFFICULTY IN REFORGING ATLANTIC RELATIONS WOULD COME IN NATO WHERE FRENCH APPEAR ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN ITEMS (E.G. BURDEN SHARING AND MBFR) IN WHICH THEY ARE NOT INVOLVED. PROGRESS IN PREPARATION OF EC DECLARATION ACCEPTABLE TO US MAY BE LABORIOUS AND FRAUGHT WITH DIFFICULTIES BUT THERE DO NOT APPEAR TO BE ANY SUCH INSURMOUNTABLE ISSUES. VOLPE

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